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Ex Parte Submission
PP 93-253

September 21, 1994

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The Honorable Reed Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 814
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED

SEP 21 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Subject: Timing for PCS Auction for Blocks C and F

Dear Chairman Hundt:

We, the attached signed parties -- representing entrepreneurs, including minority and women owned companies, small businesses and rural telephone companies -- would like to bring an urgent matter to your attention: the scheduling of broadband PCS auctions for blocks C and F. Now that the Commission has created a viable regulatory framework, it needs to add greater certainty to this process, particularly for blocks C and F, so we can collectively strive to fulfill the promise of PCS. A definitive commencement date for the C/F auction is needed so that capital can be raised, equipment can be manufactured and new services can be developed for consumers.

We are concerned that the Commission announced December 5, 1994 as the start date for the A/B auction without a specific date being announced for blocks C and F. Even worse, statements attributed to FCC staff indicate that the Commission intends to start the process for the C/F auction after the close of the A/B auction. If true, this plan will be severely damaging to both fund raising efforts by C/F applicants and their ultimate success in the marketplace. The end result will be to further inhibit wireless competition.

By announcing a date for the commencement of the A/B auctions with no date for the commencement of the C/F auction the Commission has created a potentially disastrous situation for the fund raising efforts of all C and F band applicants. Until a commencement date for the C/F auction is established, investors will be unwilling to commit to any investment and will merely wait until close of the first auction. Investors also bidding in the A and B blocks will actually benefit by delaying commitment until the close of A/B auctions, at which point C and F applicants will be captive to their demands. Equipment manufacturers, system designers and other vendors will be unable to plan and support development of broadband PCS in blocks C and F. Additionally, a potentially

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insurmountable lead in build-out will be given to A/B winners and existing wireless providers. Finally, unless the current timing plan is altered consumers will not receive the full benefits of PCS and a truly competitive wireless marketplace for a long time, if ever.

Fortunately this is a problem that can be easily solved. We urge the Commission to adopt an expedited schedule for the auctions of both blocks A/B and C/F that would proceed on parallel tracks. The Commission should announce that the filing date for short form applications for the C/F auction is four weeks after the filing date for A/B short forms -- specifically November 29, 1994. Given the uncertain duration of the A/B auction itself we further recommend that the Commission simply state that the C/F auction will commence as soon as practicable after the close of the A/B auction. This reasonable approach will encourage capital formation in blocks C and F, but still provide the Commission staff sufficient flexibility to administer both auctions.

Similarly, the process for Bands D/E should also be given a definitive start date.

The Commission made a substantial stride in creating an unprecedented opportunity for both business and the American Public. By adding certainty and ensuring parity in the implementation of this process for all bands, the FCC will once again move broadband PCS closer to fulfilling its enormous promise.

Sincerely,

The Attached Signed Parties

Courtesy Copies:

Commissioner James Quello
Commissioner Andrew Barrett
Commissioner Rachelle Chong
Commissioner Susan Ness

Rudolfo M. Baca
Karen Brinkman
James R. Coltharp
Jill Lockett
Mary McManus
Richard Welch

attachment: Signatures

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ATTACHMENT

For the above stated reasons, we urge the Commission, to release by Public Notice, a definitive commencement date for the C/F auction process. We recommend the short form filing dates for the A/B and C/F blocks occur within four weeks of each other.

Name: Martha McDermott
Company: General Wireless Comm Corp
Address: 1850 M St NW Ste 530
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: (202) 466-0222

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Name: Albert H. Frazier
Company: CalCell Wireless Inc.
Address: One Embarcadero Center
Suite 650
San Francisco, CA 94111
Phone: (415) 697-8020 or 616-0718

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Name: DAVID S. NELSON
Company: CELLULAR SERVICE INC.
Address: 6100 San Fernando Road
Glendale, CA 91201
Phone: (213) 245-0444

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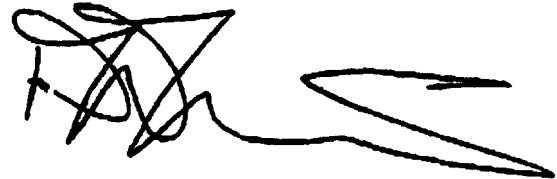
Name: Daniel C. Riker
Company: DCR Communications, Inc
Address: 2715 M St NW
Suite 150
Washington DC 20007
Phone: (800) 327-4727
(410) 964-9580

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Name: DAVE LASIER
Company: ENZOMPASS, INC.
Address: 2 RAVINIA DR
SUITE 1205
ATLANTA, GA 30346
Phone: 404-673-6540



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Name: Steven A. Zecola Steven A. Zecola, President and CEO

Company: GO Communications Corporation

Address: 201 N. Union Street, Suite 410

Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Phone: (703) 518-5073

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Name:


Robert H. Kyle

Company:

kycom, Inc.

Address:

96 Hillbrook Drive

Portola Valley, CA 94028

Phone:

415-851-1615

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Name: F. Lorenzo Crutchfield, Jr
Company: SpaceTel
Address: 706 Green Valley Rd., Suite 415
Greensboro, NC 27408

Phone: 910-854-1111

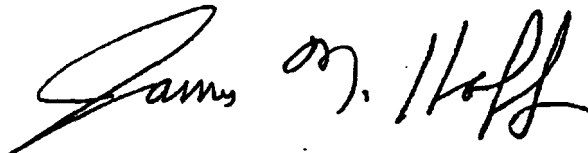
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Name: James N. Hoff, pres
Company: Star page, Inc
Address: 5644 South Broadway
Eureka CA 95503-6905

Phone: 707 443 2045



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Name: 

Printed: Christopher J. Wade

Company: TEXAS PCS, Inc.

Address: 17422 Ponderosa Pines

Houston, Texas 77090

Phone: 713-444-1128

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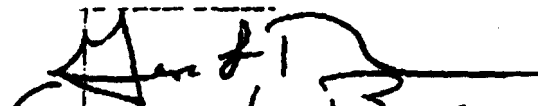
Name: Robert D. Cook
Company: U.S. Intelco Networks, Inc.
Address: 4501 Intelco Loop
Lacey, Washington 98503
Phone: (206)493-6000

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Name:


GEORGE L. BENSON

Company:

WISCONSIN WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS

Address:

N 615 COMMUNICATIONS DRIVE

SUITE 2

APPLETON, W. 54915

Phone:

414 - 832-2100